

MEMORANDUM

TO : BM/SGN
FROM : SZ/DAD
SUBJECT : DANANG Station Monthly Report for February 1970

DATE : 04 March 1970

REF. No. SZDAD/70/025

GENERAL

Reports of hostile activity during the month of February were limited to one small ground probe of the airbase perimeter and minor mortar attacks directed at Marble Mountain, about ten miles south of Danang. No increase in enemy activity was apparent during the TET holidays.

No Southern Air Transport flights transited Danang during the month.

Inauguration of the utilization of transiting international flights for the shipment of Danang originating or terminating cargo is now pending an interpretation of a certain customs form. Although this form ostensibly is to approve the payment of overtime to customs inspectors, it appears to also include provisions for supplying them transportation and an agreement to comply with any terms the Director of Customs may deem necessary.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

At the request of AID a joint meeting was held between company, AID and Embassy to determine the feasibility of formulating written procedures to govern the routine aspects of the operation. No agreement was reached due to the differences between the AID and Embassy policies and methods.

LEGAL

The hostel [REDACTED] was vacated on 9 February. The remaining hostel is presently layed out to provide accommodations for fifteen personnel, but could be modified to increase this capacity slightly.

The normal complement of RON flight crew personnel dropped to seven for a two week period when the DAD/SGN early morning departure C47 flight was rescheduled and the Embassy 204B was reassigned temporarily to another location. However, due to revised scheduling, and the return of this 204B, thirteen RON crew members will again be required and additional hostel capacity may be desireable to handle contingencies. Hostel accommodations are no longer being provided for China Air Lines flight crews on a routine basis.

FACILITIES

No further information has been received concerning AID plans to renovate the CSD warehouse into a passenger terminal/flight operations office. One difficulty reported is that Embassy will not provide positive assurances that the building will not be required in the future for cargo storage purposes.

The status of the Concrete Paving/Drainage Ditch and the Passenger Terminal Renovation projects remains indefinite.

FISCAL

[REDACTED] payroll for the month totaled: [REDACTED]
Petty cash expenditures totaled: 40,225\$VN

OPERATIONS

Revenue flight time declined substantially in February as compared to any previous month. Contributing factors included poor weather, the rescheduling of flights on the part of AID, reduced Embassy requirements, the lack of flying over the TET holidays and only one 204B being assigned during the last half of the month. Prospects for March are a little more encouraging although Embassy is not forecasting any significant increase in flying.

The following is a breakdown of flight time generated by this station during February:

VN-70/AID	- - - - -	501+50
VN-70/Embassy	- - - - -	148+18
0030	- - - - -	6+16
0069	- - - - -	4+18
Non-Revenue	- - - - -	2+30
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TOTAL	- - - - -	663+18

Revenue losses for the month were as follows:

Weather	- - - - -	12+45
Maintenance	- - - - -	11+00
Customer Cancellation	- - - - -	Nil
Other	- - - - -	Nil
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TOTAL	- - - - -	23+45

The Old Hostel occupancy factor was: 65%.

COMMUNICATIONS

Interference on HF was again pronounced and reception ability was reduced accordingly during several periods. On one day it was necessary to relay all message traffic thru Nha-Trang. Since both the Saigon and Danang improved transmitting antennas are in operation, better reception than experienced was expected.

The Monkey Mountain remote VHF/UHF relay was out of service approximately thirty six hours due to maintenance on the power supply.

Three ATEA telephone/intercom instruments are presently out of service due to broken dial gears. COMENG/SGN has been requested to procure or fabricate replacements.

Incoming and outgoing messages totaled 1527 and 1771 respectively.

TRAFFIC

Traffic workload did not decrease significantly in February as had been expected. In fact, a projection of passenger handlings reveals a greater number of departing passengers in February as compared to January.

Passenger and cargo statistics for the month are as follows:

	<u>PAX IN</u>	<u>PAX OUT</u>	<u>CARGO IN</u>	<u>CARGO OUT</u>
VN-7001/AID	2,182	2,198	207,050	239,775
VN-7002/EMB	554	652	350	11,391
0069	-	3	-	-
0005	-	-	-	-
0030	1	3	-	-
AAM	79	90	2,819	12,964.7
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TOTAL	2,816	2,946	210,219	264,130.7

SECURITY

A general increase in air base security measures threatened to create problems for all personnel not in possession of valid pass in gaining access to the base. For a few days Americans were stopped at the gates to produce identification. Fortunately no company employees were unduly detained.

The VNAF Security Officer has stated that effective 1 March, even flight crew personnel in uniform must have a valid pass (many of which will expire in March). However, to date this policy has not been enforced.

PERSONNEL

Another personnel reduction was accomplished in February involving Security Guards, Hostel Maids, and GID drivers. However, the cost savings will be offset almost completely by the recent increase in meal per diem authorized for American flight crew personnel.

A potential problem may develop with the local immigration authorities concerning a requirement that non-indigenous personnel have their passports and extension of stay documents in their possession for possible residence checks. Compliance with this requirement, if enforced, will lead to serious consequences since employee passports are held in Saigon most of time for processing visas, work permits, extensions of stay, et cetera.

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The personnel breakdown at Danang Station at the close of business, 28 February 1970, was as follows:



Permanent	4	13	18	72
Pre-Process	0	0	0	1
Temporary	1	0	0	0
Daily-Hire	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (109)	5	13	18	73

TECHNICAL SERVICES

RMD handled a total of 539 arriving and 542 departing flights, as compared to 603 and 606 respectively in January. Delays attributable to maintenance totaled three. Only three number 1 services were performed, all on 204B aircraft. Two aircraft were placed on AGP status during the month.

RGMD expended a total of 616 manhours, of which 250 were utilized in the maintenance or improvement of leased properties. Since MFA/SGN has advised that company furnished materials and supplies are required for all building maintenance and upkeep, with the exception of the USAID warehouse, additional projects of this nature will be commenced in March.

Original Signed by
WINSTON C. CAMBRE

Winston C. Cambre

cc: file